IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Kazuaki SOMENO, et al.

Appln. No.: Not Assigned

Confirmation No.: Not Assigned Group Art Unit: Not Assigned

Filed: January 20, 2004 Examiner: Not Assigned

For: METHOD OF PRODUCING A RUBBER COMPOSITION

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

MAIL STOP PATENT APPLICATION

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Prior to an examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified application as follows on the accompanying pages.

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